

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303**

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 **FAX:** 404-562-5875 **JOHNNY FREEMAN:** 404-562-5870
INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

April 9, 2004

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
FOR WEEK ENDING 10-Apr-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 04/10/04	PREVIOUS WEEK 04/03/04
BRO-FRY	155,106	159,305
LT HENS	1,495	1,298
HVY HENS	1,360	1,459

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

WEEK ENDING 03-Apr-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	211	0	211
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	216	0	216
SAME WEEK YR AGO	331	0	331
TO-DATE/2004	3,000	40	3,040
TO-DATE/2003	4,053	49	4,102

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,445	1,172	2,617
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	1,470	1,222	2,692
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,132	1,347	3,479
TO-DATE/2004	19,508	16,418	35,926
TO-DATE/2003	26,058	17,711	43,769

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 03-Apr-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	152,052	1,234	1,172	2,406
AVG WT	5.19	3.42	8.22	5.76
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	152,749	1,254	1,222	2,476
SAME WK YR AGO	156,255	1,801	1,347	3,148
AVG WT	5.06	3.30	7.94	5.29
TO-DATE/2004	1,994,439	16,508	16,378	32,886
TO-DATE/2003	1,964,101	22,005	17,662	39,667

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.9 million head or 3 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 27-Mar-2004

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	26,131	26,466	47,557
Avg Weight	3.58	4.76	6.24
% of total /1	26%	26%	47%
 Last week	 27,824	 20,869	 47,669
Avg Weight	3.49	4.76	6.30
% of total /1	29%	22%	49%
 Same week, yr ago /2	 33,617	 26,598	 49,199
Avg Weight	3.86	4.73	6.04
% of total /1	31%	24%	45%
 To date/2004	 315,726	 260,292	 526,147
To date/2003	293,174	264,460	516,166

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 03-Apr-04
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,735	2,599	61	7	4,402
AVG WT	15.42	36.69	23.72	27.14	28.11
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,808	2,595	48	7	4,458
SAME WK YR AGO	1,638	2,810	65	22	4,535
AVG WT	15.95	36.97	24.16	28.71	29.16
TO-DATE/2004	22,087	32,223	588	104	55,002
TO-DATE/2003	22,196	34,756	765	224	57,941

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.